

Algerians go to polls

GIERS, Dec. 10 (AFP). — Algerians went to the polls today to re-elect President Houari Boumediene, candidate of the National Liberation Front, the country's only party. Part of the electorate, the made of the Sahara, Algerian Emigres in Europe, mbers of the armed forces and policemen have eady voted over the last three days. More than 000 polling stations opened throughout the coun- this morning. First indications were that there uld be a big turn-out among the eight million- ong electorate.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

Volume 2, Number 333

AMMAN, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1976 — ZUL HIJJA 20, 1396

Price : 50 fils

Israel receives F-15 planes

TEL AVIV, Dec. 10 (AFP). — The first batch of F-15 fighter planes from the United States has arrived here, the Israeli press reported today. According to Israeli Television, Israel bought \$600 million worth of these planes, each of which costs \$25 million. The several dozen pilots, ground crews and technicians who received special training in the U.S. have already returned to Israel, the press said. Israel will officially take possession of the planes at a ceremony which will be held shortly, the newspapers said.

Cooperation accord signed with Belgium Prince Hassan returns

MAN (Agencies). — The anian delegation headed by his Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned here Friday after a three-day off-visit to Belgium during which Jordan signed an eco-ic and technical coope-m agreement with that try. e agreement, which was si- in Brussels Friday after- covers trade, industry, ng and agriculture. also provides for the setting f a joint Jordanian-Belgian mittee to be charged with mplementation of the agree- e committee will hold its meeting here in the first of 1977. joint press statement releas-

ed simultaneously in Amman and Brussels welcomed the progress achieved in the Euro-Arab dialo- gue and stressed its importance. The two sides also declared their intention to contribute to- wards a just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the U.N. Security Council's resolutions 242 and 338. At a press conference in Brus- sels Thursday Prince Hassan had said that Jordan viewed the Mid- dle East situation with a "mix- ture of optimism and apprehen- sion. Optimism because the dan- gerous situation in Lebanon is now calm and apprehension be- cause of the enormity of the task ahead -- the question of Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and the rights of the Palestinians in their own land."

The Crown Prince said : "We hope the days of radicalism are almost over... and that modera- tion and progress towards a comprehensive solution for the vital issues facing our troubled region will dominate." Prince Hassan had met U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissin- ger, and NATO Secretary Gen- eral Joseph Luns in addition to Belgian political leaders during his visit. He spent Friday morning at the European Common Market Commission's headquarters in Brussels and met top officials, including Mr. Francois-Xavier Ortoli, the President of the EEC Commission, Mr. Christopher Soames, the EEC Vice President and Mr. Claude Cheysson, the Development Commissioner.

New Lebanese cabinet wins total approval

BEIRUT, Dec. 10 (Agencies). — The Palestinians, a vital element in attempts to rebuild Lebanon after the civil war, joined most Lebanese factions today in giving approval to the country's first effective government for a year. Meanwhile, Dr. Selim Al Hoss, a 46-year-old economics professor who was named prime minister by President Elias Sarkis on Wednesday, settled into office with the cabinet he announced last night.

Lebanese political leaders were consulted on the cabinet before- hand and most of them had already made their approval known. Today, the Palestinians, whom the rightwing has blamed for the 19-month civil war and whose attitude is a major consideration, gave their assent too. "We welcome the Lebanese gov- ernment and wish it success," a Palestinian spokesman told Reu- ter. At least 250,000 Palestinians are in Lebanon and their com- mandos fought alongside the main- ly-Moslem left against Christian rig- hts in the civil war.

rightwing organisation, the Phala- ngist Party, has begun training its fighters in guerrilla tactics. Mr. Bechir Gemayel, military chief of the party's militia and over- all commander of rightwing for- ces in Lebanon, yesterday dis- closed the change in training meth- ods. Mr. Gemayel said the guerrilla tactics were adopted "two days after the Syrians entered the Beirut battle areas," for fear the present truce will end in underground warfare along confessionalist lines.

President Sarkis, briefing the new cabinet last night, made prominent reference to the Lebanese army, which disintegrated on com- munal lines in the civil war. "We are in a country that re- quires complete rebuilding," Mr. Sarkis told the eight ministers. "The state and its institutions, including the army and police force, have to be reconstructed and so has the paralysed economy."

The cabinet will meet again on Wednesday Dec. 15. The cabinet excludes the "old guard" of Lebanese political chiefs whose militias fought the civil war. It comprises two bankers, a bus- inessman, a lawyer, an engineer and three physicians. The eight men have an average age of 47 -- youthful for Lebanese politics. Dr. Al Hoss, whose responsi- bilities include the Information Min- istry said today that both Leban- on's radio stations would broad- cast unified programmes from Su- nday.

Israel rejects U.N. Mideast resolutions

PIED JERUSALEM, Dec. — Israel last night rejected East peace resolutions ad- by the United Nations Gen- eral Assembly.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry said both proposals, the first calling for the reconvening by March 1977 of the Middle East peace conference in Geneva with the parti-

cipation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the other condemning Israel and urging all nations to refrain from giving military or other aid to it, were "two sides of the same coin that combine war threats with attempts to dictate to us the terms of negotiations."

Kissinger urges Britain to play its role in Rhodesia

ON, Dec. 10 (AFP). — Ame- Secretary of State Henry ger today urged British Fo- Secretary Anthony Crosland y a much greater role in the tion government that will ably emerge in Rhodesia. wo met soon after Mr. Kis- arrived here from the NATO a ministers meeting in Brus-

mo arrived here almost at the sa- me time as Mr. Kissinger today. But the two men were not expected to meet. There was also the question of reconciling the radically opposed positions of Rhodesia's whites and blacks on responsibility for defen- ce and security during transition. According to an American source, Mr. Kissinger insisted today on Britain saving the conference from the failure for which it was head- ing by pledging its responsibility in the transition period more firmly.

Both resolutions serve only to strengthen Arab extremists by ha- ving the Palestinian terrorists ad- mitted by the back door to the meeting," a statement said. "The- se new moves do not further the cause of Middle East peace."

meeting was attended by ish Chairman of the conf- eror Richard, who reported agreements between the bationalists and representatives Rhodesia's white minority go- vent over formation of a tra- l government.

But the British government re- mained very unwilling to play as big a direct role as Mr. Kissinger was urging.

now accepted that the con- e will not end by Dec. 20, envisaged. Britain and the ave been seeking a new ini- to revive negotiations at art of next year.

informed source said Mr. ger and Mr. Crosland con- ted today on the direct role would inevitably be called play in the transition gover- of its former colony.

The sources said Israeli disap- pointment centred mainly on the pro-Egyptian vote of Western Eu- ropean nations with which Israel maintained close and friendly relations.

of the main black delega- the conference. Joshua Nko-

DAMASCUS, Dec. 10 (AFP). — The Palestinian movement's Cen- tral Council will discuss the diplo- matic, military and legal implica- tions of setting up a Palestinian state at a meeting opening here on Sunday, Palestinian informed sources said.

In addition it would cover the problem of participation by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at any resumed Geneva Middle East peace conference. The Central Committee has a role in the Palestinian hierarchy

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The agenda would cover the movement's attitude to the crea- tion of a state on the Israeli oc- cupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip on the Mediterranean, and the kind of relations it should have with the surrounding states of Israel, Syria and Jordan, the sources said.

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Tel Aviv radio: PLO state would recognise Israel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 10 (AFP). — An Israeli member of parlia- ment recently met with a top Palestine Liberation Organi- sation (PLO) official and was told the organisation would recog- nise Israel if it accepted the set- ting up of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories, Is- raeli radio reported yesterday. The Brussels correspondent of the radio said that Mr. Arieh Ellav, met the Palestinian offi- cial, one of the organisation's top five leaders, in the Belgian capital. The correspondent said Mr. Ellav did not request official permission to establish the con- tact but reported back to Pre- mier Yitzhak Rabin.

Will boom-boom in Lebanon be followed by a boom?

BEIRUT, Dec. 10 (R). — The president of Lebanon's Chamber of Commerce and Industry yesterday predicted a post-civil war boom surpassing that of Arab oil-producing countries. "I believe very strongly that we will have a boom even greater than the Arab oil producers," Mr. Adnan Kassar told Reuters. "In the immediate future, it will affect mainly the construction industry."

Nineteen months of war here caused damage estimated at up to \$5 billion, with Beirut's commercial district -- once the Middle East's financial hub -- in total ruin. Mr. Kassar estimated that it would take between three and five years to reconstruct buildings in Beirut, and up to three years to rebuild the city's shattered hotel district.

Plans under consideration to attract foreign investors included government-backed guarantees "for all risks, except commercial risks," he added. War risks would be included. Mr. Kassar said the idea of floating an international loan was being discussed by Lebanon's business community, but details would have to await the final decisions of Dr. Al Hoss' government under President Elias

Sarkis, formerly president of the Central Bank. Mr. Kassar added that the business community agreed the public sector must be given a greater role in Lebanon's future economic structure. However, he ruled out a state-controlled economy on the pattern of many other Arab countries. Mr. Kassar added that taxation must be more strictly enforced than it was before the war broke out in April 1975.

7 American Nobel laureates receive prizes

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 10 (R). — Seven Americans who swept all of the 1976 Nobel prizes received their awards here tonight from Sweden's King Carl Gustaf. The United States is the first nation in the 76-year history of the Nobel tradition to take home all the prizes given in one year. They include awards for literature, physics, chemistry, medicine and economics. The Nobel peace prize was not given this year. Nobel Foundation Chairman Sune Bergstrom said in a welcom-

ing address that the open attitude of American universities towards research and liberal U.S. immigration policies accounted for the growing American shade of the annual prizes. Professor Bergstrom said that in the first 25 years of the awards Europeans dominated, with only four of 84 prizes going to Americans. But in the past 25 years this share has grown to 48 out of 100 awards.

The 1976 literature laureate was novelist Saul Bellow, 61. The Physics prize was shared by Professors Burton Richter and Samuel C.C. Ting, who independently discovered a new heavy atomic particle. Professor William N. Lipscomb of Harvard won the chemistry prize for his research on boranes, while Professors Carleton Gajdusek and Baruch S. Blumberg shared the medicine prize for their work on infectious diseases. The economics award went to Professor Milton Friedman for his writings on monetary theory and stabilisation policy.

AMERICAN NOBEL — The seven Americans who won all the 1976 Nobel Prizes attend Thursday's luncheon at the U.S. ambassador's residence in Stockholm. The winners are gathered in the Swedish capital for the prizes presentation ceremony Friday (see story on p. 6). From left to right: Dr. Burton Richter, co-winner physics; Dr. Carleton Gajdusek, co-winner medicine; Prof. William Lipscomb, chemistry; Mr. Saul Bellow, literature; Dr. Samuel Ting, co-winner physics; Prof. Milton Friedman, economics; and Dr. Baruch Blumberg, co-winner medicine. (AP wirephoto).



JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily
published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Tel. 47171/2/3/4 - Cables: JORTIMES - Telex: 1487 (Al Rai)

ECWA to hold meet in water resources

AMMAN (JT). — The United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) will hold in Baghdad, Iraq, between Dec. 11-16, 1976, a regional preparatory meeting for the United Nations Water Conference to be held in Argentina, March 1977.

Representatives of eleven member Arab states were invited to attend the meeting. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was also invited to attend the meeting as an observer.

Invited also to send representatives to the meeting were eleven U.N. organisations and agencies.

Arab intergovernmental organisations, as well as Arab development funds were also invited to the meeting. Furthermore, ECWA invited a limited number of well-known experts in the field of water and water resources development to attend the meeting.

National Notes

● AMMAN. — Their Highness Princesses Zein and A'isha Friday morning paid a visit to the Women Voluntary Association's nursery in Zarqa where they distributed presents on the children on the occasion of Al Adha feast.

● AMMAN. — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouni Thursday received a cable of thanks from Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam in reply to Mr. Talhouni's cable inquiring about his health after the assassination attempt on his life.

● AMMAN. — The Amman Chamber of Industry has received an invitation to participate in a food and sweets exhibition due to open in Paris next February. The invitation has been extended by the French Foreign Commerce Association.

and make statements and recommendations.

The main purpose of holding this meeting is to prepare for the U.N. water conference to be held in Argentina, March 1977. As to the objectives of the meeting, they are: First, to review documents prepared by concerned governments, experts and specialists on different subjects related to water resources. This includes evaluating applied technology and formulating water policy, and studying water demand and supply prospects which are directly connected with the medium-term objectives of the water resources projects. Second, the meeting will be considered as a workshop to discuss main obstacles facing development of water resources in each of ECWA member states, make it possible to adopt new policies, legislation and technologies to cope with increasing demand on water in the future and to suggest recommendations to solve water problems on national, regional and international levels.

The documents and studies to be discussed in the meeting consist of reports prepared, in cooperation with ECWA, by every participating country, defining basic water resources, shortage and scarcity of the available water quantities.

It is expected that this meeting would provide constructive information to government officials concerned with formulating planning, administration and policy in the field of water resources development. It is also expected that the meeting would contribute to the activities of the existing regional committees concerned with water resources, and perhaps would lead to establishing one regional committee for water resources.

Philippine craftsmanship exhibits Arab influence

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

A breath of warm air from Philippines swept the hall of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel in Amman Dec 9, following the hand-printed, silk evening dresses of original fashions on three attractive models.

The evening started at 7.30 p.m. by her Royal Highness Princess Basma's cutting the ribbon of the exhibition, which will be open to public view until the evening of Sunday, Dec. 12. It is an exhibition of Philippine craftsmanship filling the hall with useful objects as well as things of beauty.

Near the door of the hall are the sketches of the fashion show dresses, with interesting names such as "A Drop of Honey" and "A Midsummer's Night Dream". Arab influence is evident in some of the fashions which are aptly

called "Shehrazad" and "Arabesque".

Further inside the hall large tabletop areas are occupied by bouquets of flowers of different sizes and shapes, made of mother-of-pearls and sea-shells.

The useful items like bread baskets, tissue-paper box containers, shopping bags, etc., were decorated with colourful flowers made of dried straw.

Several attractive trolleys and light-fixture attracted the attention of many visitors.

This exhibition will surely inspire the Jordanian craftsmen by giving them new ideas of using the existing materials in Jordan, in new forms for creating decorative and useful items.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
U.K. sterling	556.0	562.0
Swiss franc	135.9	136.3
German mark	138.9	139.9
French franc	66.7	67.0
Italian lira		
(for every 100)	38.5	38.7
Syrian pound	82.0	82.7
Lebanese pound	120.0	123.0
Saudi riyal	93.7	94.0
Iraqi dinar	940.0	948.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1143.0	1148.0
U.A.E. dirham	82.3	83.8
Libyan dinar	710.0	730.0
Egyptian pound	475.0	487.0

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MADABA '76

MUNICIPALITY FACES FINANCIAL TROUBLE

By Cliff Bale
Special to the Jordan Times

Following is the first of two stories about the town of Madaba. Approaching the end of the year 1976, we saw it more suitable to headline it Madaba '76, with the hope that such an article would draw private and public attention to this beautiful, quiet and touristically prominent town.

This year alone Madaba needs an estimated JD 50,000 from the government to prevent it falling ever deeper into debt. This is the dichotomy facing many a Jordanian municipality planning long-awaited improvements.

This town of 40,000 people, lying in the shadow of the capital, Amman, needs many improvements in various facilities -- water, road, schools, hospitals -- if it is to maintain a reasonable level of services for its increasing population, according to Madaba's mayor, Mr. Samih Farah.

Projects underway, or soon to be implemented, include the construction of new shops, especially for a fruit market; the asphaltting of roads (at a JD 200,000 cost); the first stage of a sewerage plan (JD 250,000); the first stage of a small sports city (also JD 250,000) and a central location for taxis (JD 60,000).

In addition, a JD 100,000 municipal building is nearing completion to replace the present rather cramped one, in use since Ottoman times.

The central government donation to replace the present rather cramped one, in use since Ottoman times.

Mr. Farah feels that the municipality, because of the arrival of a great number of tourists lured by its Byzantine mosaics, should give a tidy, well-kept appearance. The town is not doing badly in this respect, for several large-scale projects have already been completed.

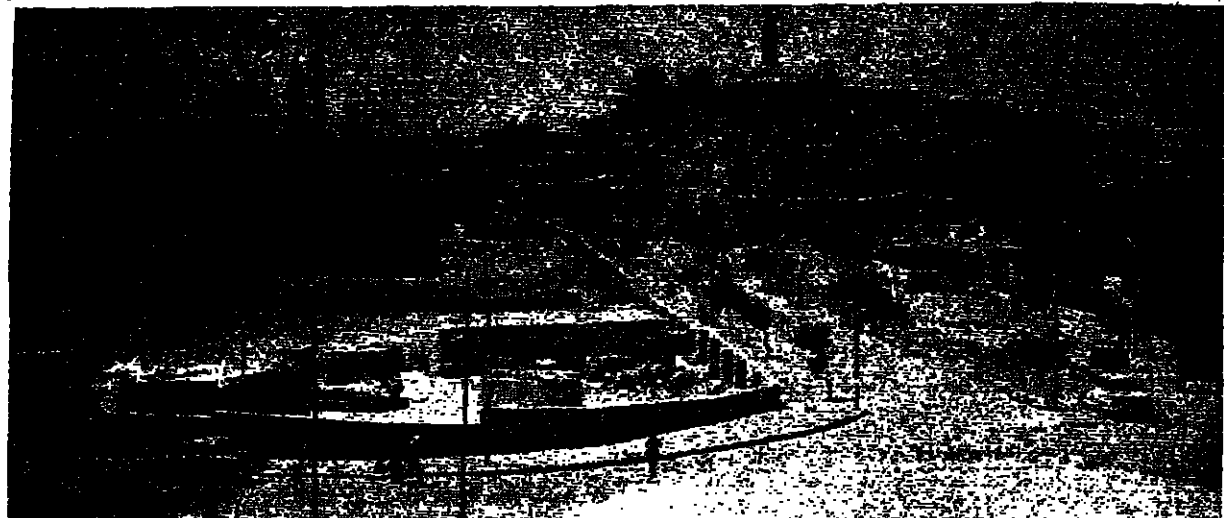
A new pipeline is now conveying much-needed water to residents from a spring nine kms. west of Madaba. This JD 85,000 project replaced an old pipe, that was prone to sporadic leakage.

The town must still depend on Amman for part of its water supplies, especially during the summer. The spring can provide 800 cubic metres a day, whereas in summer demand jumps to 1200 cubic metres.

However, Amman could only provide water one day per week during the summer, and not the three to four days required. This naturally led to rationing of water on an area basis.

Mr. Farah emphasised that if no new wells were located, the water problem would become very serious in the future. The government is, however, searching for new water sources, he clarified.

Electricity is no problem, for Madaba is now linked to the Amman system.



Madaba as seen from the northern entrance. The church (left) houses the famous mosaic map of Palestine with details of Old Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, Jordan River and the Nile Delta.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Al Sha'b and Al Dustour editorials on Friday took up respectively the subjects of the new government in Lebanon and the Israeli manoeuvre at the U.N. General Assembly.

Al Sha'b says that despite the sensitiveness which the Lebanese war had left behind, the new Prime Minister, Dr. Selim Al Hoss, was able, within a short time, to form a government for "the new Lebanon" -- the first in President Elias Sarkis' term of office.

The paper says the main quality of the new government is that it is formed of technocrats who have had or have no political affiliations, and were therefore neutral in the bloody conflict which Lebanon suffered during the last 19 months. In other words, the paper adds, it is an all-Lebanese government which does not take sides with any party against any other party or parties -- a thing which goes to its credit in the talks about reestablishing peace and initiating the process of reconstruction in Lebanon.

Al Sha'b finds another point to the new government's credit, i.e. it was given the support of all Lebanese political factions, which had already placed their confidence in President Sarkis, thus facilitating his efforts in the formation of the government within a short time.

The paper thinks the main difficulty facing the new government will probably be the disarming of all the disputant parties, and the rebuilding of the security machinery which will maintain peace and stability in Lebanon and create the proper climate for its reconstruction.

Under the heading "The Israeli abortive manoeuvres", Al Dustour says Israel's latest manoeuvre at the U.N. General Assembly has utterly failed to conceal Israeli procrastination and evasion from complying with the wishes of the world community.

The Israeli representative yesterday withdrew the draft resolution which he had submitted to the Assembly a few days ago calling for the reconvening of the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference.

"This retreat clearly illustrates the twisted scheming of Israeli diplomacy," the paper points out. When it became apparent to Israel that its draft resolution could not succeed in creating differences of opinion among the parties to the Geneva talks, it hastily withdrew it, thereby revealing its changing underhand tactics and ill-intention towards the world community, Al Dustour says.

The paper notes that although the United States has voted against the resolution calling for reconvening of Geneva by May next year all the European Common Market countries have supported it. "This phenomenon suggests that the European countries might play, in the future, a more positive role conducive to a settlement in the Middle East," Dustour says.

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Geneva Middle East Peace Conference.

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حکومت الامم المتحدة

Third World blames industrial states for slow going in Paris talks

Sino-Soviet talks stall

PARIS, Dec. 10 (AFP). — The 19 developing countries in the north-south dialogue who agreed last night to postpone the final ministerial session due to start on Dec. 15 squarely put the blame for the delay on the leading Western industrial powers. The crucial concluding round of bargaining on a better economic deal for Third World countries is now taking place in three or four months, Third World sources said here.

A statement by the "19", read out here by an aide to Mr. Manuel Perez Guerrero, the Venezuelan Co-chairman of the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC), made it clear that the failure to wind up the year-old conference on schedule was due to lack of "political will" on the part of "some" of the eight industrial powers involved.

The statement did not name the United States, the European Economic Community and Japan, but Third World delegates made clear that the "19" held these countries responsible for the lack of concrete progress in the dialogue so far.

The decision to put the final ministerial meeting off "until the start of next year" was announced simultaneously by Mr. Perez Guerrero and the Western Co-chairman, Allan MacEachern of Canada.

Western delegates to the CIEC met that by accepting a postponement, the 19 developing countries had kept all options open. They said the main factor was anticipation that U.S. President-elect Jimmy Carter, who is to take office on Jan. 20, would be prepared to present at least some concessions on issues the 19 consider as vital.

These include the debt burden of developing countries, some form of indexing oil and raw material prices and more stable export earnings. Another key issue is increased transfer of resources, mainly through more and improved official development assistance.

The same sources recognised that the big industrial powers given away virtually nothing in these areas.

In their statement, the 19 said they were themselves prepared for the Dec. 15 ministerial conference.

"But they have accepted the postponement in view of the argument advanced that at this time some industrialised countries in the group of eight are not able to assume the political positions which will ensure the success of the conference and that early in the next year the perspectives appear favourable," the statement said.

The text emphasised that the initiative for the postponement "did not come from the group of 19 but ... arose from the group of eight."

It said the 19 hoped "that by the time that the ministerial meeting takes place, all the members of the group of eight will demonstrate the political will which has been lacking so far."

Speaking in Caracas, Mr. Perez Guerrero said a failure of the north-south dialogue would be "disastrous". And he made it clear that the "other side" would then be responsible, not the developing countries.

The Venezuelan co-chairman at the same time singled out Sweden, the Netherlands, Canada and France, the host country, as having proved more open and cooperative towards the positions of the 19.

But in Paris, a Third World delegate insisted that although the attitude of Sweden and of the Netherlands -- which is a member of the EEC delegation -- were "politically significant", they had no decisive impact on concrete solutions to such problems as debts and aid. What mattered was what the big economic powers -- the United States, Japan and

West Germany -- were prepared to do.

European diplomats endorsed this view, saying that the final result would depend on whether Mr. Carter adopted a less rigid stance on "matter of principle" than the outgoing U.S. administration.

If he did so, Japan was likely to follow suit, they said. They also cited some signs that West Germany might ease its stand.

This might enable heads of state and government of the EEC to agree on a common position when they meet in London next February. They failed to do so in the Hague last week.

The same sources said the attitude of the big economic powers might be influenced by next week's conference in Qatar of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries on oil prices. But inversely, the result of negotiations on raw materials, development and financial issues would decide what concessions the industrial countries might secure on energy in a final package deal in the CIEC.

"Very hard bargaining" was ahead in the next three months, these sources said.

Asked whether the 19 were pessimistic or optimistic about the final outcome, a Third World diplomat said: "We don't spit on the future ... we have waited for 20 years. We can afford to wait for another three months."

PEKING, Dec. 10 (R). — No substantive progress has been made since the stalled Sino-Soviet border talks resumed here 10 days ago, informed sources said today.

The talks were effectively discontinued 18 months ago when the chief Soviet negotiator, Deputy Foreign Minister Leonid Ilyichov, returned to Moscow.

His return to Peking on Nov. 27 was seen as part of a Soviet initiative to begin a fresh dialogue with the post-Mao administration of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

Soviet diplomats hoped that with the change in leadership Peking would take a more flexible attitude towards the border deadlock and bilateral relations in general.

On the Chinese side, Senior Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien said the

Kremlin was creating false impressions and he described the idea that relations would be relaxed as wishful thinking and day-dreaming.

If anything, the Chinese propaganda war on the Soviet Union has been stepped up since Chairman Mao died on Sep. 9.

The Chinese view is that the "Soviet renegade clique" tried to confuse Marxism and revisionism (Chinese jargon for the Soviet brand of communism) after Mao's death.

Peking is understood to regard Mr. Ilyichov's return as part of this Russian design, and Chinese officials have indicated privately there will be no improvement in Sino-Soviet relations "unless the Soviet side changes its attitude

and comes forward with concrete proposals."

Soviet diplomats said Mr. Ilyichov had returned to the negotiating table with a new brief but that it was "secret".

The Chinese view, however, is understood to be that no meaningful new proposals have been forthcoming.

But in Moscow, Chinese officials said today the Sino-Soviet talks on border problems were continuing in Peking and denied reports that the discussions were already deadlocked.

The main stumbling block in the talks is understood to be China's insistence on Soviet recognition that large areas of Siberia and Central Asia were obtained by Tsarist Russia from weak Chinese emperors under "unequal treaties."

Another point at issue is known to be the Chinese demand that the Soviet Union agree to a mutual troop withdrawal along their 6,400-km border as a precondition for meaningful negotiations.

U.S. State Department is not pleased with oil prices

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (AFP). — The U.S. State Department reiterated today its disagreement with estimates that the economies of the oil consuming countries would not suffer if the producer states increased the price of crude oil "moderately" on Dec. 15.

Referring to this month's meeting in Qatar of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), a spokesman

for the department said: "No oil price increase is justified and it could have (a) damaging effect for the world economy."

A study made by the department showed that a "modest" oil rise of five per cent would represent, in real terms, a decrease of 0.3 per cent in the gross national product (GNP) of most of the consuming countries, and of 0.2 per cent in the GNP of the United States.

BUSINESS WEEK IS NOT PLEASED WITH OPEC

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (AFP). — Oil-exporting countries are accused of "smash-and-grab tactics" in the latest issue of the magazine Business Week.

The magazine said: "A careful look at the world economy shows clearly that the price policy of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has been a continuing drag on growth."

"It has impoverished the less developed countries, brought the international financial system close to collapse, and fed inflation in the industrial countries. Beyond that it has reduced the productivity of capital investment and thus discouraged modernisation and expansion all over the world."

According to Business Week: "In the longer run, the United States and the other big oil users must set out to break the stranglehold of OPEC on their economies. This means launching a massive research programme to develop new sources of energy and better ways of using existing energy."

"It also means a determined effort to promote conservation, including the abolition of price regulations on domestic oil, which in effect subsidise imports."

The magazine called for "a concerted diplomatic effort by the United States and all its trading partners to make OPEC see that its smash-and-grab tactics will destroy not only the oil consumers but eventually the oil producers as well."

Business Week admitted that, in the short term, the U.S. had hardly any defence against an oil price rise in the near future.

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7.00	Breakfast show, morning melodies
7.30	News bulletin
7.40	Morning melodies
8.00	Music
10.00	Listener's choice
11.00	Date with a star
11.30	Catch the word
11.45	Pop session (Part I)
1.00	News summary
1.03	Pop session (Part II)
2.00	News bulletin
2.15	Radio magazine
2.30	Good vibrations
3.00	Concert hour
4.00	Old favourites
4.30	Easy listening
5.00	Jordan weekly
5.30	Pop session (Part III)
6.00	News summary
6.03	Classical show case
6.30	Is weekly
7.00	News bulletin
7.10	Music
7.30	Sign off

AMMAN AIRPORT

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6:50	Aqaba	20:35 Rawalpindi (BA)
8:00	Beirut	
8:00	Tabuk, Badana, Jau, Haqel, Jeddah	
8:45	Cairo (EA)	6:40 Tehran
9:05	Rome (Alitalia)	7:30 Jeddah
9:30	Damascus, Aleppo	7:55 Cairo (EA)
10:45	Bucharest (Tarom)	8:20 Dubai (BA)
11:00	Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam	8:25 Muscat, Doha
11:30	Frankfurt, Copenhagen	8:25 Kuwait
12:00	London	8:30 Aqaba
12:15	Cairo	8:30 Bangkok, Abu Dhabi
12:30	Paris	8:45 Karachi, Dubai
13:30	Jeddah (SDI)	11:15 Beirut
		11:35 Dhahran, Riyadh (SDI)
		15:00 Aleppo, Damascus
		17:30 Frankfurt
		18:45 Cairo
		19:50 London (BA)

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Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

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British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37009
Goethe Institute	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Arman Municipal Library	" 36111

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GMT		
05:00	News; Press Review	13:15 Business and Industry
05:15	Letterbox	13:30 Flavour of the Fifties
05:30	Two's Company	14:00 News
05:45	The World Today	14:09 Book Choice
06:00	News; Press Review	14:30 Terry Wogan's LP Showcase
06:30	Bob Holmes Requests	15:00 Radio Newsreel
07:00	News	15:15 Saturday Special
07:15	From the Weeklies	16:00 News; Commentary
07:30	Two's Company	16:15 Saturday Special
07:45	Letter from London	17:00 News Summary
07:55	A Musical Dictionary	17:02 Saturday Special
08:00	News; Reflections	17:45 Sports Round-up
08:15	Take One	18:00 News
08:30	Baker's Half-Dozen	18:15 Radio Newsreel
09:00	News; Press Review	18:30 Theatre of the Air
09:15	The World Today	19:30 Classical Guitar
09:30	Financial News	20:00 News; Commentary
09:45	My Music !	20:15 International Press
10:15	Scotland '76	20:30 I Hear Music
10:30	What's New	21:00 Business and Industry
11:00	News	21:15 Opera Review
11:15	International Press	21:40 Books and Writers
11:30	Appointment with Fear	22:00 News
12:00	Radio Newsreel	22:09 Music Now
12:15	Folk and Country	22:40 The Week in Wales
12:45	Sports Round-up	22:45 Sports Round-up
13:00	News; Commentary	23:00 World News; Commentary

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6:00	Quran	9:15 Reportage
6:05	Cartoons	
6:30	On we go	
7:00	Young Dr. Kildare	
8:00	News in Arabic	
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7:30	Survival	
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Soares walks political tightrope to patch up Portugal's shaky economy

LISBON, (CSM). — Portugal's Prime Minister, Mario Soares, is moving politically with that combination of ostentatious confidence and finesse that is characteristic of tightrope walkers. Nevertheless his act -- a series of hesitating steps towards economic austerity -- may well fail.

Since the April, 1974, revolution Portugal's economy has been on a slide that has not yet bottomed out. Unemployment remains at 15 per cent or more and inflation at over 30 per cent. Productivity declines in both agriculture and industry during 1975 have not been checked.

Management in most industrial branches is anarchic. The state budget is deeply in the red, chiefly because of subsidy and social service transfer payments that have surged since the revolution.

The balance of payments may be as much as \$1.5 billion in deficit this year. The country's pre-1974 hoard of foreign exchange reserves and much of its gold reserves too have dwindled away.

Foreign economic advisers at a recent international conference in Lisbon strongly recommended a substantial devaluation of the escudo.

The prime minister, who has been in power only three months, has announced measures to arrest this decline. His objective is to cut consumption generally and

imports of luxury goods and consumer durables in particular and to increase production and eventually exports and investment.

Surcharges are being slapped on a broad range of consumer goods. Wages are being curbed while the prices of public services such as rail and bus fares are increased. Farms illegally seized by landless labourers during the 1975 agrarian reform wave are to be returned to their owners.

Politically most important if most dangerous too, Mr. Soares has moved to break the Communist Party's monopoly control of the trade union movement. Inter-sindical.

Like the workers' commissions, whose powers to interfere with management were curtailed last summer, the unions have countenanced indiscipline and absenteeism in the factories and have opposed dismissals for such infractions.

Foreign advisers from Western Europe and the United States have been urging these steps and more basic reform measures for months. The political risks for Soares in such a course are extremely high. It is questionable whether he will be able to carry out even the steps he has already announced.

Mr. Soares has chosen to act with a minority government consisting almost entirely of Socialists. His policies could simultane-

ously antagonise both the radicalised farm labourers of the south, the Communist Party's bastion, and the shipyard and factory workers of Lisbon's industrial belt, where both the Communists and the radical leftists are strong.

So far the Communists have not mobilised the unions they control against the prime minister's austerity measures. Present Communist strategy seems to be to lie low in the anticipation that the Socialists will make mistakes -- either in carrying out their programme or in demonstrating their incapacity to carry it out.

Mr. Soares' Socialists still hold a tenuous middle ground. No two parties can at the moment combine successfully against them. Even the nationalised bankers of Lisbon, dispossessed landlords of the south, disgruntled small farmers of the north, apprehensive petty industrialists, harassed factory managers and watchful generals see no alternative to his government at the moment. Only the Socialists can claim a nationwide political base.

Mr. Soares must demonstrate authority politically and at the same time revive confidence in the economy so that small private firms, which still account for 90 per cent of manufacturing output, will invest and export; so that capital, foreign tourists and

remittances from the 1.1 million Portuguese working abroad will flow into the economy again; so that some of the skilled managers and technocrats who have fled will return.

The problem for the prime minister is to accomplish this without being seen by the Communists, unionists and far left radicals to be restoring private ownership to its former privileged political and economic positions.

If Mr. Soares fails, the leaders of the armed forces, who made Portugal's revolution, will no doubt reemerge to try to save it. Rightist officers could conceivably make a bid for power. More likely, the President, Gen. Antonio Ramalho Eanes, will take complete charge.

Presidential rule on the French constitutional model might be less of a tightrope act than the Socialists' minority government. Mr. Soares appears to be moving ahead as if he needed no safety net.

But if he makes a disastrous mis-step General Eanes might provide one in the form of a regime that could enforce economic austerity, preserve the social gains of the revolution and retain at least a semblance of democracy. Such a regime would also be in keeping with almost all except the most recent traditions of Portuguese history.



Ships in Lisbon's Tagus River -- Economic activity is a welcome sign for Portugal's rulers.

Vietnam steadily goes about task of solving problems of unification

HANOI, Dec. 10 (AFP). — A leading Vietnamese intellectual, Nguyen Khacvien, commenting in a series of articles on events in the past 20 months since the fall of Saigon, concluded that reunification of North and South Vietnam has been carried out without too much suffering or any major incidents.

Mr. Vien is generally regarded here as a semi-official spokesman close to the government but not a fanatical supporter of all its policies.

He wrote that "many revolutions in the world have ended up either in a civil war or bloody purges." Socialist Vietnam had "a special problem to solve" regarding the one million people who worked for the Saigon regime but had emerged with honours.

But he admitted that there were still difficulties: "President Gerald Ford of the United States personally stated, like so many others, that South Vietnam would be crowned in a bloodbath, accompanied by anarchy and economic and social disaster. But he has since retracted this."

Mr. Vien is a former physician and at present is director of Vietnamese foreign-language publications.

"Out of one million mercenaries, police and special agents trained by the Americans, 90 per cent of them have been given back their full civic rights," he said. There were "a handful of obstinate people" who had become partisans in the mountains, "attacking passing vehicles from time to time" or committing several acts of sabotage in the towns.

But despite these incidents, there was law and order in former South Vietnam: "The general scene is of a government which is making its way, slowly but surely, through numerous snags littering the route and certainly not of a country heading towards catastrophe."

Mr. Vien said that among the snags were the difficulties of founding revolutionary administrative units "in a country completely overturned by 20 years of American intervention," which led to the deaths of many experienced militants.

They had to be replaced, for good or bad. By recently liberated political prisoners or partisans "who did not necessarily possess the experience needed for running a big city."

Mr. Vien said that amongst those administrators, there were enemy agents and opportunists who had infiltrated into revolutionary committees to sabotage future decisions.

He said that another snag was to list and question one million people, including 40,000 officers, to find out their true role during the war.

Regarding inmates of reeducation camps, Mr. Vien said: "Our task is to make former privileged people realise what is the national interest and make a selection amongst them of those who were forced to serve in the puppet army. As soon as their files are studied and we know who we can count on, they are freed at once."

Another snag is what to do with one million people in Saigon who lived off the war economy, without counting half a million prostitutes recorded in the whole of South Vietnam.

"They have to be reemployed

in a new society being built on ideas and values completely opposed to those of the old regime."

Mr. Vien said that there were new economic zones where they could be put to work and increase food production -- South Vietnam used to import from 300,000 to 700,000 tons of foodstuffs annually.

Many former villagers who fled the war into the cities had nowhere to go back to because 9,000 villages were destroyed. These villagers had also become used to city life and were no longer prepared to go back to the hard work in the fields. No former officer, soldier or shopkeeper was ready to go voluntarily into a village, so that this whole question of peopling the countryside would remain for some years to come.

Mr. Vien said that about 10 million southerners had quit the countryside in the past 10 years, owing to the war, and there were still an estimated 150,000 tons of bombs and other explosive devices waiting to be defused there.

The war had left behind one million wounded and crippled and 800,000 orphans who had to be cared for.

Mr. Vien concluded: "After the inevitable mistakes made at the beginning we have traced our path even though this displeases Washington propagandists, disappointed they cannot highlight major troubles that they have been reduced to publicising several negative aspects, hiding achievements accomplished since the liberation."

Brezhnev hits news after grand tour of East Europe

MOSCOW, (CSM). — The Soviet Union's tally sheet after a month of intensive diplomatic activity in its own backyard of Eastern Europe is as follows:

Support for its own foreign policies ... world headlines for days at a time ... a dynamic image for party leader Leonid Brezhnev on his much heralded 70th birthday ... new emphasis on Moscow's economic leadership of the bloc ... but no significant concessions from the two mavericks of the bloc, Romania or Yugoslavia.

That at least is how informed Western analysts here see the tally, even as they caution that much is still unclear.

Most interest among diplomats has centred on Soviet strategy towards Romania and Yugoslavia. The feeling seems to be that Mr. Brezhnev's visits (his first state visit to Bucharest and his first for five years to Belgrade) were beneficial from the Soviet point of view.

Analysts here saw no concessions on important issues; neither communiques referred to proletarian internationalism, which has come to mean Soviet ideological ascendancy.

The Romanian-Soviet communiques merely mentioned international solidarity -- and immediately followed it with references to full respect for equality and independence.

Both nations demonstrated the desire for independent links with Washington by playing host to Commerce Secretary Elliot Richardson. Mr. Richardson had a 9 minute meeting with Mr. Ceausescu before the Romanian leader left for the airport to greet Mr. Brezhnev.

Mr. Brezhnev gave Mr. Ceausescu four welcoming kisses on the cheek. Ever-watchful reporters noted only three for President Tito.

Later Romania signed a 10-year cooperation pact with Mr. Richardson. Also recently a semi-official Romanian defence official was Peking.

Romania needs Soviet markets for goods the general recession has prevented from reaching Western markets. But it does not seem willing to make more than minor public concessions for them (though it has dropped its polemic over the disputed territory of Moldavia).

Yugoslavia under Mr. Tito wants good ties but not subordination.



BIG BROTHER FOR BRITISH BULLDOG -- The Scottish Aviation "Bullfinch" -- a four-seat development of the successful Bulldog military trainer bought by Jordan -- made its first public appearance recently. Powered by a single 200hp fuel-injection engine, the Bullfinch is fully aerobatic and can be used effectively as a trainer. Fitted with a retractable undercarriage -- a new feature on this version -- the aircraft will be produced for both civil and military roles. Over 250 of the successful Bulldogs are now in service throughout the world and a five times repeated order for the military version is about to be signed. This follows second orders placed by Sweden, Jordan and two African nations.



CONCORDE ON TOUR -- The sleek shape of Concorde is bathed in floodlights at Kai Tak airfield in Hong Kong during a reception given in its honour by the Hong Kong government. The Anglo-French supersonic airliner was making its first-ever visit to the colony during a recent sales tour of the Far East. Concorde first landed on Kai Tak's finger-like runway in the sea having halved the usual flight time from Manila. Mrs. Imelda Marcos, wife of the president of the Philippines, was among a party of invited guests on the trip. The aircraft returned next day for a planned three-day stay during which, among others, it was inspected by a group of aviation experts from the People's Republic of China. Negotiations on the possible lease of Concorde aircraft to Philippine Airways are continuing.

كلدان الامل

U.N. commissioner for Namibia says:

S. Africa prepares to invade Angola

LUSAKA, Dec. 10 (AFP). — Mr. Sean Macbride, the United Nations High Commissioner for Namibia (Southwest Africa) today accused South Africa of preparing to invade Angola from the Caprivi Strip.

The Strip is a narrow band of

USSR, Libya paper over differences

MOSCOW, Dec. 10 (R). — The Soviet Union and Libya ended talks here yesterday with a call for stronger Soviet-Arab relations, an apparent attempt to paper over differences between their two countries.

The call, in a joint communiqué issued after four days of talks between Kremlin chiefs and Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, seemed to underline Moscow's concern over the erosion of its position in the Middle East, observers said.

The two countries appealed for a strengthened relations between Arab people and the Soviet Union and other communist countries, according to the communiqué, carried by Tass news agency.

"They express their firm resolve to repel any attempts to damage Arab-Soviet friendship and consider it their duty to do everything to promote its consolidation and broadening," it said.

But Western observers said the Soviet side -- represented by Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev, Premier Alexei Kosygin and President Nikolai Podgorny -- had apparently failed to persuade Col. Qadhafi of the wisdom of reconvening the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference.

Last night's communiqué described the talks as taking place in an atmosphere of "frankness" -- a word in Kremlin terminology recognising basic disagreement.

The two sides stuck to established policy statements on the Middle-East.

territory forming part of South African-ruled Namibia and bordering Angola and Zambia to the north and linking up with Rhodesia in the east.

Fifty thousand heavily armed South African troops were already camped in the strip in readiness for an attack probably next month, the commissioner said.

Rhodesia was building three military airstrips in readiness for the invasion, Mr. Macbride told an interviewer.

"I am very concerned, the situation is extremely serious. From the middle of January we are entering a new situation which may involve the destabilisation of Angola," he said, adding "we have information that these plans, being hatched in Pretoria and Salisbury, may mature sometime next month."

Pretoria was planning its attack under the pretext that President Agostinho Neto's ruling Angolan People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) backed by Cuban troops had joined forces with the main Namibian liberation movement SWAPO (Southwest Africa People's Organisation), the U.N. official stated.

He added that South Africa had been making statements for the past ten days designed to create a hostile atmosphere, stating that SWAPO and the MPLA with Cuban support were threatening to invade Namibia and that if they did South Africa would take "hot pursuit" preventive action.

South Africa had been increasing its military presence along the Strip for the past four months and its forces there were now equipped with helicopters, tanks, artillery and hundreds of armoured cars.

Mr. Macbride accused Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith of "buying time" at the Geneva conference on his country's future while Rhodesia built three military airstrips, one near the Caprivi Strip, a second near the Mozambique border and the other somewhere in northeastern Rhodesia.

"It certainly contradicts Mr. Smith's reported intention for a peaceful settlement. It is odd that he should accept majority rule while entrenching his position by

building new air force bases in the area," Mr. Macbride said.

"Already, the pursuit of the policy on which South Africa has embarked in Namibia would seem to me to lead to the development of an armed conflict in the area and an ultimate call for outside military intervention," Mr. Macbride said.

Commenting on Mr. Macbride's charges, South African Defence Minister Piet Botha today stressed South Africa's determination to maintain as many troops in the "operational zone" of northern Namibia as necessary to defend its borders and those for which it was responsible.

Mr. Botha also suggested that Mr. Macbride visit the Strip to "show us" the military base he said Rhodesia was building in the area.

The "operational zone" covers the Bantustans (African homelands) of Ovambo and Kavango, and Mr. Botha stressed that South African troops were present in Namibia at the invitation of the homeland governments.

Ethiopian police shoot down demonstrators

ADDIS ABABA, Dec. 10 (R). — Security Forces opened fire on an anti-government demonstration in the Ethiopian provincial capital of Gondar, killing several people, the local security committee said today.

Informed sources said extra soldiers have been flown to the area.

The security committee said protesters took to the streets of the town 750 kms northwest of here on Wednesday under the pretext of condemning an anti-government group called the Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU). But they began singing anti-revolutionary songs and produced banners condemning the government.

They were instructed to disperse but refused. The committee alleged that some unknown gunmen opened fire, forcing the security forces to return the shots.



GOODBYE TO NATO -- Dr. Henry Kissinger waves final goodbye to newsmen as he leaves the press conference and NATO headquarters in Brussels Friday noon. (AP wirephoto).

NATO F.M.'s reject Warsaw Pact offer

BRUSSELS, Dec. 10 (R). — NATO foreign ministers today turned down a Warsaw Pact proposal for East and West to agree not to be the first to use nuclear weapons in a war.

In a communiqué issued at the end of a two-day meeting, the foreign ministers "confirmed that the countries of the alliance, in the event of an attack on them, cannot renounce the use, as may be required in defence, of any of the means available to them."

They also called on all states which took part in last year's European security conference summit in neutral Helsinki to strictly respect the "renunciation of the threat of use of force as laid down in the charter of the United Nations and reaffirmed in the final act of Helsinki."

"It is essential for the strengthening of peace that no military groupings should build up armaments of any type beyond the needs of defence," the communiqué said.

At the end of a summit meeting in Bucharest last month the Warsaw Pact leaders offered the United States and Western Europe a new treaty banning all countries who signed it from being the first to use nuclear weapons.

The Warsaw Pact also proposed talks on limiting the two military power blocs to their present membership.

The 15-nation NATO communiqué today also turned down this suggestion, which was evidently aimed at stopping post-Franco Spain from eventually joining the Western alliance.

The communiqué said: "Ministers also stated their position that the alliance will remain a free association open to all European states devoted to the defence of the freedom, common heritage and civilisation of their peoples." Furthermore, ministers recalled that the right of states to belong or not to belong to treaties of alliance was confirmed in the final act of Helsinki.

The communiqué added that for this reason the foreign ministers considered the recently published Warsaw Pact proposals were unacceptable.

The NATO foreign ministers meeting -- a bi-annual winter session -- was the last attended by Dr. Henry Kissinger as U.S. secretary of state.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

● PARIS, Dec. 10 (R). — Egypt has secured French loans totalling \$85 million to help finance economic development projects, French officials said today. They said \$19 million would go to build an underground railway system in Cairo and the remainder to various other projects. The announcement followed three days of talks here between French and Egyptian officials. The Egyptian officials said the remaining \$66 million would finance the purchase of French electrical equipment for power stations, the building of a tunnel under the Suez Canal, and sugar cane and beet sugar refineries in upper and lower Egypt. France has already granted Egypt \$50 million credit facilities this year.

● MOSCOW, Dec. 10 (R). — The Soviet Union announced tonight it was introducing a 200-mile fishing zone around its coasts in which foreign vessels would only be able to operate with Russian consent. A decree published by the government newspaper Izvestia said the decision was "a temporary one" pending agreement on the issue of sea rights at the long-standing United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The decree, issued over the signature of President Nikolai Podgorny, did not specifically state that the measures were going into force at once, but it was believed this was the case.

● HONG KONG, Dec. 10 (R). — China has successfully brought back to earth a space satellite launched on Tuesday, the New China News Agency reported today. Details of the landing were not given but it was the second satellite to have been retrieved since China began its space programme in April 1970.

● WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (R). — The U.S. House of Representatives assassination committee today unanimously approved an initial budget of \$6.5 million for fresh investigations into the murders of President Kennedy and civil rights leader Martin Luther King. The committee is looking into allegations that the CIA and the FBI withheld important information from the Warren Commission, which originally investigated the Kennedy assassination.

● LOS ANGELES, Dec. 9 (R). — The trial of 22-year-old newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst on charges stemming from an alleged three-day crime spree in southern California in 1974 was postponed today until next April. She appeared in state superior court for a 10-minute hearing surrounded by five security men hired by her father after her release on \$500,000 bail in San Francisco last Nov. 19.

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Kissinger bids Europe adieu

BRUSSELS, Dec. 10 (Agencies). — American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger today bade farewell to Europe with a strong plea for the continuation of his policy of East-West détente.

At an hour long press conference at NATO headquarters here, Dr. Kissinger gave what alliance Secretary General Joseph Luns described as his "political testament."

Alternating between solemnity and humour, Dr. Kissinger stressed the role of security and détente as the basis for world peace.

"We must prevent any temptation on the part of those countries who multiply their armaments to believe they can achieve economic or political advantage by the use of arms. We must therefore see to our security," he said.

Dr. Kissinger, who leaves the State Department on Jan. 20, was asked what advice he could give his successor, Mr. Cyrus Vance. He replied that he had nothing to say at this stage in public. "But I wish him well."

"He deserves the confidence of the American people. He deserves the confidence of all foreign countries who are concerned with the direction of American foreign policy," Dr. Kissinger said.

Asked about his own period as secretary of state, he replied: "It's too early to write obituaries."

Besides East-West issues, Dr. Kissinger assessed latest developments in the Middle East, South Africa and China as well as relations between industrial and developing nations.

He said he would play no role in framing American foreign policy under the Carter administration, but he was prepared to offer assistance and advice in specific circumstances "because I believe that foreign policy in the United States is a non-partisan enterprise."

Asked how the Soviet Union would react if Spain joined NATO, Dr. Kissinger quipped: "They might ask Albania to join the Warsaw Pact."

"The United States has favoured

the participation of Spain in NATO and the political progress that has been made in Spain should speed the day when that situation is possible.

"I do not believe that this will bring about any change in the military balance because we (U.S.) have already a bilateral arrangement with Spain and clearly it is not part of any offensive action against the Soviet Union," he said.

Replying to questions on the Middle East, Dr. Kissinger said he expected the broad thrust of the American policy to continue under Mr. Carter.

"I believe the main commitment towards a just peace in the Middle East is dictated by American interests, by world interests and by the best interests of the parties directly concerned," he said.

"My assessment is that the only active conditions for peace in the Middle East are better than the have been in perhaps decades."

On the postponement of the north-south dialogue originally scheduled for Paris on Dec. 4, Dr. Kissinger said one of the reasons was that the outgoing administration would inevitably have disappointed the Third World because it could not accept commitments that the incoming administration would be forced to implement.

The United States was one of the backers of the so-called north-south dialogue on a new international economic order, Dr. Kissinger said adding:

"We believe that the developing nations have a special obligation to put forward constructive concrete proposals and that the discussion rather than a spirit of confrontation."

Dr. Kissinger said the United States is strongly opposed to any significant increase in the price of oil, adding that the impact on the global economy would be in the medium term -- affect the very countries now thinking of raising oil prices.

Dr. Kissinger said China would continue to play a major role in the world balance of power.

Spanish Communist chief emerges from hiding, olive branch in hand

MADRID, Dec. 10 (Agencies). — the Soviet Union, East European countries and Mexico of northern Spanish Communist Party leader, emerged from hiding today and gave his first press conference in Spain since the 1936-39 civil war.

He described the referendum scheduled for Dec. 15 on the government's political reform programme as a "Francoist rite."

But Senor Carillo announced that the Communist Party, whether legal or not, would present candidates in the legislative elections next spring in all provinces.

He said he had been living in Madrid since February but the government did not know it.

He told the press conference: "We come out in the open to demonstrate our will to participate in democracy."

He declared that his party was immediately withdrawing its opposition to the establishment by

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Italian press ponders Soviet involvement in Libya-Fiat deal

ROME, Dec. 10 (R). — Italian newspapers reported today that the Soviet Union was involved in a controversial deal which gave Libya a 9 per cent holding in the giant Fiat car company.

The reports followed a surprise visit to Moscow yesterday by Fiat Chairman Giovanni Agnelli, during which he met visiting Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

Two newspapers, the Communist L'Unita and the Corriere Della Sera of Milan, said specifically that the \$415 million deal appeared to be linked to Fiat investments in the Soviet Union.

A Fiat spokesman said he could neither confirm nor deny the press

reports, which were published as the Italian parliament began a debate on the Libya-Fiat deal.

In a report from Moscow, L'Unita said Signor Agnelli's visit "authorised observers to repropose the hypothesis... that the Soviet Union cooperated in the drawing up of the Libya-Fiat agreement."

The correspondent of L'Unita quoted sources in Moscow as saying that a number of planned Fiat projects had been shelved because of lack of Italian government credits.

"The entry of Libya capital," he added, "would permit the company to overcome its credit difficulties and therefore to go ahead

with the carrying out of the programmes agreed with the Soviet Union."

Signor Agnelli signed a five-year cooperation agreement in Moscow last month for a series of projects to be carried out at Fiat's plant at Togliattigrad.

Informed sources said today's press reports appeared to confirm rumours here earlier this week that the Soviet Union was involved in the Libyan deal with Fiat.

Corriere Della Sera's Moscow correspondent linked the deal with a current visit to Rome by Soviet Vice Minister for Foreign Trade Nicolai Komarov, and negotiations for a \$600 million credit by Italian authorities to the Soviet Union.

A Soviet embassy spokesman said he could not comment on the report but that Mr. Komarov's visit was a routine one.

The leftwing newspaper La Repubblica said the Libya-Fiat agreement was part of a three-way accord under which Fiat would provide the technology, Libya the financing and the Soviet Union the market for a range of manufactured goods.

The paper said in an editorial that both Moscow and Libya wished to entice Italy away from the West European bloc. "The aim (of the deal) is the progressive unmooring of the Italian economy and its policies from the rest of Europe," La Repubblica said.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed quietly firm Friday, with 'new time' buying on the last day of the account and ahead of the economic measures to be announced next week, dealer said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was up 5.4 at 324.8.

Government stocks edged around 1/8 to 1/4 point higher among longs while shorts were little changed. Leading industrials scored rises of up to 12p in selective buying interest.

Oils had B.P. off the bottom by the close, losing a net 8p after 14p on reports that the government may sell part of its holding in the company, while other oils tended higher. Banks were generally steady to a shade higher.

Mining shares were easier despite the firmness of the gold bullion price but Australians were off the bottom in places.

ICI led leading industrials higher with a rise of around 12p in buying interest and gains of 4p to 8p were scored by Glaxo, BAT, EMI, GEC, Hawker, GKN, Tubes, Beecham and Unilever. Dunlop and Thorn both gained 2p, while Gus "A" gained 3p in stores on further consideration of yesterday's figures.

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